GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:453
ANSWERED ON:20.11.2001
ANTI-TERRORISTS SPECIAL CELLS
IQBAL AHMED SARADGI

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government propose to issue uniform directives to all the States to set up Anti-terrorist Special Cells to face any unprecedented situation in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the functions of the proposed cells;

(d) the name of States already having these type of cells;

(e) the time by which all the States are likely to set up such cells?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (CH. VIDYASAGAR RAO)

(a) to (e): The Central Government has-been sensitizing the States about the threat perceptions regarding activities of militant and terrorist groups in the country form time to time. Periodic meetings have also been held with the State Governments in order to evolve strategies to counter the designs of anti-national elements.

In this context, all States have been requested to set up anti-terrorist cells, to be able to deal with terrorist activities more effectively. The Cells would focus on collection and sharing of information and closely monitoring the activities of terrorists/militants, including those backed by ISI, for follow up action. Some States such as Mizoram, Meghalaya, Rajasthan and Andhra Pradesh have set up such cells. Some other States have also set up mechanisms for counter-terrorist measures, such as anti-terrorist squads, special task forces, dedicated units etc.